



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10**

1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140

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December 1, 2008

David M. Abner, Senior Litigation Attorney
Law Department
Ashland Inc.
P.O. Box 2219
Columbus, OH 43216

Re: Ashland Inc. Request for Extension of Response to First Request for Information; Portland Harbor Superfund Site, Portland, Oregon

Dear Mr. Abner:

EPA is in receipt of the letter dated October 28, 2008, requesting an additional extension of time for response to EPA's letter dated January 18, 2008, regarding First Request for Information; Portland Harbor Superfund Site, Portland, Oregon, for Ashland Inc at 2308 North Clark Avenue. In your letter, you requested an extension date of January 23, 2009, to respond. Based upon the circumstances you presented, EPA believes that your extension request is reasonable and has extended the due date for your response to this first Information Request to January 23, 2009. Please note that this will be the last extension granted notwithstanding extraordinary circumstances outside of your control.

Failure to respond fully and truthfully to the Information Request by the due date provided in this letter may result in an enforcement action by EPA. Under Section 104(e)(5)(B) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(5)(B), pursuant to the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act of 1990, 28 U.S.C. § 2461, as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1995, 31 U.S.C. § 3701, EPA is authorized to commence an action to assess civil penalties of not more than \$32,500 per day for each day of noncompliance against any person who unreasonably fails to comply with an Information Request.

Please note that responses which are incomplete, ambiguous or evasive may be treated as non-compliant with this Information Request. Also be further advised that provision of false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations may subject you to criminal penalties under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. You have an ongoing duty under this first Information Request to supplement your response with any additional information or documents that become available or known to you after you submit your response. This Information Request is not subject to the approval requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, 44 U.S.C. § 3501.

If you have any general questions about the Site, you may call Kristine Koch at (206) 553-6705, or contact her by email at koch.kristine@epa.gov. If you have legal questions about this letter or if you are represented by legal counsel, you or your attorney may contact Elizabeth McKenna, Assistant Regional Counsel, at (206) 553-0016 or mckenna.elizabeth@epa.gov, or

USEPA SF

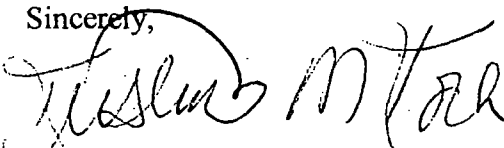


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Lori Houck Cora, Assistant Regional Counsel, at (206) 553-1115 or cora.lori@epa.gov. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Sincerely,

for 
Deb Yamamoto, Unit Manager
Site Cleanup Unit #2
Office of Environmental Cleanup

cc: Ms. Elizabeth McKenna
USEPA

Ms. Kristine Koch
USEPA

Ms. Lori Houck Cora
USEPA



David M. Abner
Senior Litigation Counsel
Law Department

Ashland Inc.
P.O. Box 2219
Columbus, OH 43216
Tel: 614 790-1556, Fax: 614 790-4268
dmabner@ashland.com

November 26, 2008

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS & E-MAIL @ YAMAMOTO.DEB@EPA.GOV

Deb Yamamoto, Unit Manager Cleanup Unit #2
USEPA, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, M/S ECL-115
Seattle, Washington 98101

Re: Portland Harbor Superfund Site

Dear Ms. Yamamoto:

This is to request an extension to January 23, 2009 for Ashland Inc. to respond to USEPA's 104(e) Request for Information regarding its formerly owned facility at 2308 North Clark Avenue, Portland, Oregon, regarding the Portland Harbor Superfund Site. Ashland's response regarding this facility is currently due November 29, 2008. An extension is necessary for Ashland to continue to complete its due diligence in interviewing former/current Ashland employees, and reviewing significant additional documents that have been located in the last seven days for information to provide accurate and truthful responses to your questions.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated, and we look forward to receiving your response.

Sincerely,

David M. Abner

cc: Kristine Koch, EPA-ECL (koch.kristine@epa.gov)
Lori Houck-Cora, EPA-ORC (cora.lori@epa.gov)
Elizabeth McKenna, EPA-ORC (mckenna.elizabeth@epa.gov)